

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor Office of Policy Implementation and Watershed Restoration P.O. Box 420

Trenton, New Jersey 08625 Phone: 609-633-2201 Fax: 609-292-4608

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June 23, 2011

BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

John Everson, Chairman Deal Lake Commission 550 Main Street Loch Arbour, New Jersey 07711 VILLAGE OF LOCH ARBOUR VILLAGE CLERK

RE: Approval for the Watershed Protection Plan for Deal Lake (Grant # RP04-082)

Dear Mr. Everson:

The Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Policy Implementation and Watershed Restoration (OPIWR) is in receipt of the final report for the above-noted 319(h) grant, RP04-082 entitled, "The Deal Lake Watershed Protection Plan" (plan) dated January 2011 prepared by Princeton Hydro, LLC. The plan compiles a comprehensive watershed characterization and a watershed plan with emphasis on stormwater management to address water quality for the Deal Lake watershed.

The OPIWR has reviewed the above noted plan and found it to sufficiently address the elements discussed in the executed contract. In addition, the plan addresses the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) nine minimum elements required for a watershed management plan. Specifically, the plan presents a comprehensive characterization of the watershed, utilizing water quality monitoring and visual assessments conducted during plan development that determined the priority pollution sources and water quality problem areas throughout the watershed. The plan also contains technical information for recommended structural and non-structural stormwater management control measures that upon implementation will improve water quality and remove impairments. These stormwater management measures and practices identified in the plan may also be transferable to other areas of the state where watershed protection and restoration plans are being prepared and implemented.

The OPIWR has determined that this plan adequately identifies and prioritizes specific stormwater-related implementation projects to address water quality and quantity that are needed in order to improve water quality and address water quality impairments. Based upon the information contained in this plan, this Office hereby approves the plan as a "Watershed Based Implementation Plan" for the Deal Lake Watershed. As such the plan will be posted on the Department's website within the OPIWR once developed.

Funding for implementation projects identified in this approved plan should be sought from all available federal and state sources, e.g. the 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program. Please access the Department's website at www.state.nj.us/dep for more information on future 319(h) grant funding opportunities. Specific projects identified in this approved plan may also be undertaken by watershed partners in the implementation of their respective nonpoint source program responsibilities.

As I am sure you are aware all projects undertaken pursuant to this plan are subject to appropriate federal, state or local permitting requirements prior to implementation and that not every project will be appropriate for funding under the 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to improve water quality in the State of New Jersey. I am confident that the various implementation projects identified in this approved plan will reduce nonpoint source pollution in this important watershed. If further information is required, please contact Anne Witt at (609) 633-1166 or myself at (609) 633-2201.

Robert B. Piel, Jr., Assistant Director Office of Policy Implementation and Watershed Restoration

Cc.

Anne L. Witt, BEAR,

Jay Springer, BEAR

Terri Romagna, OPIWR

Sincerely

Dave McPartland, OPIWR Barbara Hirst, BEAR

Dr. Steven Souza, Princeton Hydro, LLC